

## Message Text

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45

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01

DRC-01 /093 W

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R 151400Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2902

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

S E C R E T MANAGUA 4474

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT NU

SUBJECT: CHAMORRO-SACASA OPPOSITION GROUP LABELED SUBVERSIVE

1. ON NOVEMBER 10 OPPOSITION LA PRENSA ANNOUNCED THE BIRTH OF A "NEW NATIONAL MOVEMENT" WHICH HAD REPORTEDLY BEEN IN PROCESS OF GESTATION FOR THE PAST FEW MONTHS. A DECLARATION OF THE MOVEMENT PUBLISHED IN THE LA PRENSA ARTICLE DECLARED ITS PURPOSES TO BE FORMATION OF A "NEW ORGANIZATION OF CIVIC MILITANCE" WHICH WOULD "CREATE THE CONDITIONS FOR A REBIRTH AND TRANSFORMATION OF NICARAGUAN LIFE THROUGH A NATIONAL MOVEMENT OF CONSTRUCTIVE RESISTANCE." ALSO INCLUDED WAS A STATEMENT OF THE MOVEMENT'S GENERAL OBJECTIVES, WHICH WERE STRIKINGLY SIMILAR TO THOSE EXPRESSED IN THE CHAMORRO-SACASA "EMPLAZAMIENTO" ISSUED ON JULY 3, 1973 (MANAGUA A-37). THIS SIMILARITY WAS EXPLAINED BY THE FACT THAT AMONG THE 105 PERSONS LISTED AS SIGNING THE DECLARATION WERE NONE OTHER THAN PEDRO JOAQUIN CHAMORRO AND RAMIRO SACASA AND MOST OF THEIR KNOWN FOLLOWERS. OTHER NOTABLE SIGNATORIES WERE ALFONSO ROBELO, CURRENT PRESIDENT OF THE CHAMBER OF INDUSTRIES; DULIO

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BALTODANO, A WEALTHY AND PROMINENT COFFEE AND COTTON BROKER; DR.

ELIAS F COREA, NEWLY ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY DOCTORS ASSOCIATION(MANAGUA A-44); OCTAVIO RIVAS, LAST YEAR'S PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ORGANIZATION (CUUN); AND TWO FORMER PRESIDENTS OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY (PCN).

2. SINCE MOST OF THE SIGNERS WERE WELL KNOWN OPPOSITIONISTS AND THE "MOVEMENT" ACTUALLY REPRESENTED NOTHING "NEW" THE ANNOUNCEMENT PROBABLY WOULD HAVE GONE RELATIVELY UNNOTICED. IN FACT, ACCORDING TO CHAMBER PRESIDENT ROBELO, HE ACTUALLY SIGNED THE DECLARATION SEVERAL MONTHS AGO AND WAS UNAWARE OF THE USE TO BE MADE OF IT. HOWEVER, ON NOV 13 THE SOMOZA-OWNED NOVEDADES RESPONDED TO IT WITH A BANNER HEADLINE DECLARING "THEY ARE PLOTTING A GREAT CONSPIRACY", AND SUB-HEADERS CHARGING "NATIONAL MOVEMENT IS A SCREEN--THEY PLAN ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS AND TERRORISTS ACTS--CONSPIRATORS MEETING IN MANAGUA AND LEON." A BRIEF INSIDE STORY ALLEGED SECRET MEETINGS AND HIDDEN PURPOSES AND WARNED: "WE ARE LAUNCHING THIS CLEAR DENUNCIATION OF DECEIT, OF WHICH SOME CITIZENS ARE THE VICTIMS, SO THAT WHEN THE APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES APPLY THE CORRESPONDING LEGAL REMEDIES IT CANNOT BE SAID THAT THEY WERE UNAWARE OF THE TRUE PURPOSES OF THIS COMLOT."

3. COMMENT: NOVEDADES MOTIVES IN MAKING SUCH A HIGHLY ESCALATED AND OBVIOUSLY THREATENING REPLY, APPARENTLY ON BEHALF OF THE GOVERNMENT, ARE UNCLEAR. IF THE OBJECTIVE IS TO INTIMIDATE AND DISCOURAGE ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE CHAMORRO-SACASA GROUP, THE WARNING MAY HAVE SOME EFFECT, PARTICULARLY AMONG THE MORE VULNERABLE INVOLVED IN BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY; BUT THE COMMITTED AND ESTABLISHED OPPONENTS OF GENERAL SOMOZA, SUCH AS CHAMORRO AND SACASA ARE UNLIKELY TO SUBMIT TO SUCH PUBLIC DURESS. HOWEVER, THERE IS ANOTHER LIKELY MOTIVE FOR NOVEDADES PUBLICLY RAISING THE TABOO TOPIC OF ASSASSINATION. IN RECENT MONTHS THERE HAS BEEN AN OUTBREAK OF RUMORS CONCERNING POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION PLOTS WHICH AR OPENLY, INDEED CASUALLY, DISCUSSED BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC AND NOT JUST BY OPPOSITION GROUPS. THIS SPECULATION IS FED BY THE FACT THAT GENERAL SOMOZA'S OPPONENTS HAVE LOTS OF CASH AND THE WIDELY HELD ASSUMPTION THAT A BULLET IS THE ONLY MEANS OF PREVENTING SOMOZA'S RESUMPTION OF THE PRESIDENCY IN 1974 AND HIS EVENTUAL SUCCESSION BY HIS SON. WHILE THERE IS NO SECRET

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EVIDENCE LINKING THIS GROUP WITH A PARTICULAR PLOT, NOVEDADES IS OBVIOUSLY PUTTING ITS CURRENT AND POTENTIAL MEMBERS ON NOTICE THAT THEY WILL BE HELD RESPONSIBLE IF ANY ATTEMPT IS MADE ON SOMOZA'S LIFE.  
SHELTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ASSASSINATION, OPPOSITION PARTIES, POLITICAL PARTIES, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE  
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**Draft Date:** 15 NOV 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973MANAGU04474  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** elyme  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JAN 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by elyme>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CHAMORRO-SACASA OPPOSITION GROUP LABELED SUBVERSIVE  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, NU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005